

Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund Short Program Descriptions

Barnstable County Department of Human Services will implement evidence-based health interventions in the communities of Barnstable, Mashpee, Falmouth, and Bourne. This strong, established and experienced partnership has demonstrated knowledge of its community and has selected health conditions relevant to the local population, including hypertension, falls among the elderly, and diabetes. In addition, this partnership will develop a comprehensive worksite initiative. The coordinating partner will also be implementing electronic referrals as part of the State Innovation Model grant.

Berkshire Medical Center plans to develop evidence-based initiatives to address tobacco use, hypertension and falls among the elderly in Berkshire County. This partnership has identified key populations in the county and has selected the most appropriate health conditions to align with these groups. In addition, the best outcomes will be realized by prioritizing key areas in the county, involving community health workers, and developing plans to link primary care.

Boston Public Health Commission is poised to address the fact that Roxbury and North Dorchester have the highest incidence of hypertension and pediatric asthma in Massachusetts. Boston Public Health Commission's strong infrastructure, partnerships with community health centers, connections with pharmacists, and links with other community resources will allow it to address these two health issues through targeted, comprehensive interventions throughout the two neighborhoods. In addition, the Boston Public Health Commission will work to prevent falls among the elderly through the use of proven strategies.

Holyoke Health Center and its partner organizations plan to work on improving oral health in addition to addressing all of the Prevention and Wellness Trust's priority health areas: tobacco use, hypertension, pediatric asthma and obesity. The partner organizations have proven their commitment to the community by sharing resources, working together, and working in and with the community they serve. Understanding the needs of their community, the partnership has identified recruiting bilingual and bicultural staff as a priority.

The City of Lynn and its partners have identified a high-need population in Lynn and have selected health conditions that align with the needs of this community. The partnership has selected all four of the Prevention and Wellness Trust's priority health conditions: tobacco use, hypertension, pediatric asthma, and falls among the elderly. The City of Lynn will enlist strategic partners, such as the housing authority and the public school, to launch strong policy-oriented initiatives and implement clinical and community based interventions.

The City of New Bedford Health Department will bring many partners together to serve the high-need populations in New Bedford and Fall River. By selecting appropriate health conditions, thoughtfully connecting resources with programs, and demonstrating a clear understanding of the healthcare delivery model, this partnership is well-positioned to develop and implement interventions to reduce tobacco use, hypertension, pediatric asthma, falls among the elderly and substance abuse.

The City of Worcester is focusing on the needs of the most disparate populations in the city, and will use community health workers and innovative strategies to reduce the rates of hypertension, falls among the elderly, and pediatric asthma. The city is collaborating with a broad range of partners, including a health plan and legal services. These partners also have a strong history of integration, understanding, and engagement with the community.

Manet Community Health Center formed a partnership in Quincy and Weymouth that addresses emerging populations and strategically incorporates community health workers across all priority health conditions identified by the Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund. In addition to addressing multiple priority health conditions — tobacco use, hypertension, falls among the elderly, and substance abuse — an advantage of the partnership is the existing relationships among the partners and their strong alignment with addressing health conditions. The coordinating partner, Manet Community Health Center, is part of the State Innovation Model grant, making it well positioned to implement electronic referrals.

The Town of Hudson will coordinate a partnership addressing key health conditions for high-need populations in Framingham, Hudson, Marlborough and Northborough. The partnership has outlined evidence-based interventions in all four priority conditions: tobacco use, hypertension, pediatric asthma, and falls among the elderly. The partnership benefits by sharing resources across health conditions and interventions through cross-training, integration and use of the Health Department. This partnership has also taken a unique approach to program sustainability by securing matching funds from the Metrowest Health Foundation.